

FIVE PLACES THAT STILL GIVE ME CHILLS

BY PAUL DALE ROBERTS, HALO PARANORMAL INVESTIGATIONS

Some places have an atmosphere that feels different the moment you arrive. It's not just history or architecture — it's a weight in the air, a chill on the skin, or a sense of being watched when no one is around. As a paranormal investigator, I've learned to pay attention to those subtle signs, because they often point to stories that linger far beyond the grave.

Over the years, through research, stories shared by family, and a few personal visits of my own, I've come across several locations that radiate this kind of unsettling energy. These sites are steeped in tragedy, myth, and unexplained activity. Whether tied to a tormented spirit, a cursed legend, or an eerie presence, each one has left a lasting impression.

What follows are five places that deliver a whole lot of chills. From castles in Europe to a saloon in Alaska, these haunted destinations stand out not only for their beauty and history, but for the mysteries that still seem to walk their halls and echo through their walls.

Classiebawn Castle, Ireland

When my family and I visited Classiebawn Castle, we immediately felt its haunted reputation. In certain parts of the castle, cold chills swept over us. My stepson Jason asked if I had grabbed his shoulder. When I said no, he replied, "Well, somebody did."

Locals say that after the tragic death of Lord Louis Mountbatten, his ghost began appearing at the castle. Mountbatten was assassinated in 1979 when the IRA detonated a bomb on his fishing boat in Mullaghmore. Witnesses describe his ghost as a tormented figure, shaking his head in disbelief, his face showing shock and surprise. Could it have been Lord Mountbatten who touched Jason? It's possible.

Bled Castle & Lake Bled, Slovenia

According to legend, the lush valley around Lake Bled was once inhabited by fairies who clashed with local



Classiebawn Castle in Ireland carries a chilling presence, where visitors report cold touches and uneasy sensations. Some believe the restless ghost of Lord Louis Mountbatten still lingers within its walls.

shepherds when grazing animals destroyed the valley's beauty. Angered, the fairies flooded the valley, forcing survivors onto Bled Island. Even today, some visitors claim to see fairy-like figures near the castle or island after most tourists leave.

Another famous tale centers on the "Sunken Bell." In the 16th century, a grieving widow ordered a bell for the island's church after her husband was murdered and thrown into the lake. The transport boat capsized, and the bell was lost forever. Some claim to see the widow's husband appear waist-deep in the lake.

A replacement bell, later blessed by Pope Clement VII (1523–1534), still hangs in the Church of the Assumption of Mary. Ringing it three times while making a wish is said to bring good fortune.

Belém Tower, Lisbon, Portugal

Belém Tower (Torre de Belém), built between 1514 and 1519, has long been linked with eerie tales. The dungeons are said to be haunted by prisoners from Portugal's past. Some visitors report hearing whips cracking, muffled screams, whispers, and even feeling phantom touches.

Legends also tell of hidden chambers and tunnels beneath the tower, supposedly filled with treasures from Portugal's colonial expeditions. Though no evidence has ever been found, the stories persist.

Another tale speaks of a tragic love between a Portuguese soldier and a Moorish princess. Forbidden to be together, they supposedly appear hand-in-hand on the grounds before fading into nothingness.

Ronda, Province of Málaga, Spain

The Province of Málaga is full of haunted legends. One of the most infamous sites is Cortijo Jurado, often called "Spain's most haunted house." Built in the 19th century, it is surrounded by dark stories of secret tunnels, satanic rites, and the disappearance of young girls, who were said to have been tortured. Locals and tourists report nightly screams, and the tunnels have since been sealed by authorities.

Another tale involves the "Rock of Lovers" (La Peña de los Enamorados). In the 15th century, during the Reconquista, a Christian soldier and a Moorish noblewoman tried to flee together against her father's wishes. Pursued by soldiers, the couple threw themselves from the rock to remain united in death. Their apparitions are sometimes seen reenacting this tragic leap.

In Ronda itself, the ruined Casa Rúa (also known as Villa Apolo) carries its own horrors. Stories claim a young girl of the Rúa family was brutally murdered in the tower. Her parents' anguished screams are said to echo through the night, and her ghost still haunts the site, searching for justice.

Juneau, Alaska

Juneau is no stranger to hauntings. At the Red Dog Saloon on S. Franklin Street, established in the late 19th century during Alaska's gold rush, patrons speak of a mischievous cowboy ghost who pinches unsuspecting women. Others say they've seen a red-haired female spirit who manifests in the ladies' restroom.

Juneau also lies within the infamous "Alaska Triangle," a region known for mysterious disappearances. Among its haunted sites is the Alaskan Hotel, which opened in 1913 and is the city's oldest. Featured on shows such as *The Alaska Triangle* and *Portals to Hell*, it has several notoriously haunted rooms.



Belém Tower in Portugal is said to echo with the screams and whispers of long-lost prisoners. Legends of hidden treasure and a tragic forbidden love only deepen its haunted mystique.

In Room 315, a man's apparition silently stares before vanishing. Room 219 is haunted by "Alice," a woman said to move objects and steal towels. The bar is haunted by two ghostly mountain men who sometimes knock over drinks. In the basement, the ghost of a man who drowned in a hot tub appears wrapped in a towel before fading away.

Echoes That Refuse to Fade

Whether rooted in folklore, tragedy, or unexplained encounters, these places remind us that history doesn't always rest quietly. The echoes of the past linger in whispers, cold touches, and fleeting apparitions, leaving us to wonder if some stories are simply too strong to fade away.

For me, these haunted sites stand as more than landmarks — they are intersections of memory, myth, and mystery. Each carries an energy that stirs both curiosity and caution, drawing us closer while reminding us of the thin veil between the living and whatever lies beyond. ♦